

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Response to “Evolution, Revolution, or Obsolescence: An Examination of Writings on the Future of Health Sciences Libraries”

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In her comment and opinion piece in the January 2012 *Journal of the Medical Library Association* (JMLA), Julie J. McGowan, AHIP, FMLA, examined the future roles of health sciences librarians with regard to knowledge management (KM): “While learning organizations need more knowledge management (KM), something that certainly falls into the natural domain of health sciences librarians, until recently, few librarians have embraced the new roles associated with KM” [1].

However in 2010, the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, New England Region, introduced a five-year strategic plan (2011–2016), the “Regional KM Initia-

tive,” to encourage the adoption of KM concepts and practice by hospital libraries in the region. This initiative is discussed in greater detail in the fall 2011 issue of the *Journal of Hospital Librarianship*, in the article, “Developing a Strategic Plan for Transitioning to Healthcare Knowledge Services Centers (HKSCs)” [2].

McGowan further writes, “since 2006, there has been a paucity of literature about librarians who have embraced these new roles, and, with the exception of discussions on social networking sites and other commentaries available on the web, the movement toward ensuring our place in the future of knowledge management is slow, if it exists.” It is our hope that our article in the *Journal of Hospital Librarianship* will open up the discussion and encourage more published literature on KM in the health sciences library field.

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References

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